

~~SENSITIVE~~

CIA/SAVA /WVIND 701219



WEEKLY VIETNAM INDICATORS

Week Ending 19 December 1970

NSA Declassification/Release Instructions on File.

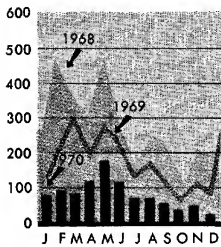
For the President Only

~~Top Secret~~

SOUTH VIETNAM WEEKLY INDICATORS

1968-1970

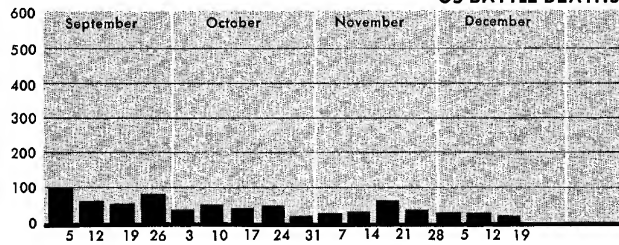
Weekly average for each month



SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 1970

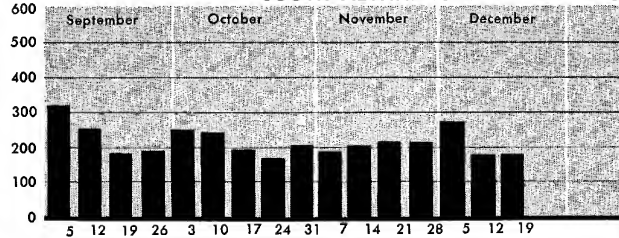
Weekly data as reported

US BATTLE DEATHS



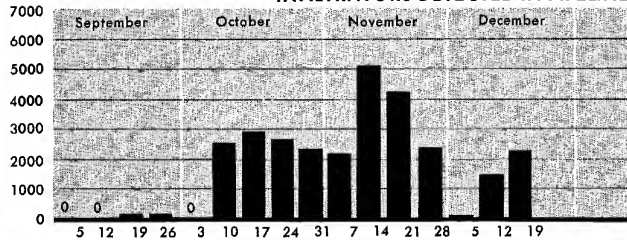
dropped to 23 from last week's 29.

SOUTH VIETNAMESE BATTLE DEATHS



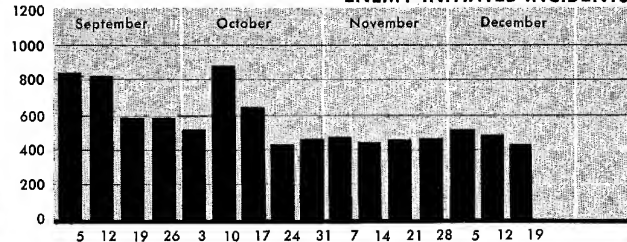
declined very slightly to 181 from last week's 184. The official total will change as late reports are received and will be lower than the figures released to the press by the GVN.

INFILTRATORS DETECTED IN PIPELINE



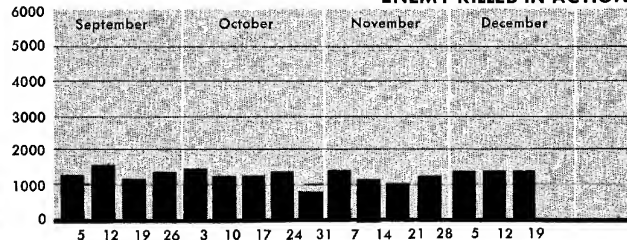
stand at three detected and one gap fill group, with a combined strength of over 2,200. The total number of infiltrators since 1 October 1970 is now an estimated 28,500 - 31,000.

ENEMY-INITIATED INCIDENTS



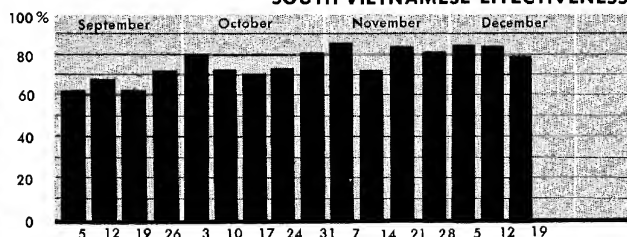
continued to decrease as 424 incidents were reported versus the 507 of last week.

ENEMY KILLED IN ACTION



increased to 1,404 from last week's 1,351.

SOUTH VIETNAMESE EFFECTIVENESS



as measured by the percentage of enemy killed by GVN forces decreased to 79% from the 85% of last week.

Statistics for the latest week shown are preliminary

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Enemy Activity

Enemy-initiated activity in South Vietnam remained at low levels, but a rash of terrorist incidents and minor shellings in the lower half of the country probably marked the beginning of a Communist attempt to mount a pre-holiday period of increased action. Military activity in Laos continued at a relatively low pitch. The friendly operation against the logistics complex at Ban Ban in the north has made little progress while hampered by bad weather and enemy harassment. Light Communist probes and attacks by fire in the south have continued but have been countered by effective tactical air strikes. The level of enemy activity in Cambodia has been relatively low, but Route 4 to the sea remains closed with the Communists maintaining pressure on this strategically important area. The overall situation to the east of Phnom Penh, however, has improved with the deployment of South Vietnamese forces to, and the subsequent reopening of, Route 7 west of Kompong Cham after Cambodian forces had suffered fairly heavy losses there.

Enemy Infiltration

Inputs into the infiltration pipeline continue at a steady, if unspectacular pace. During the past week, three battalion-size groups were detected and an additional gap fill group was accepted as probably moving, for a weekly total of over 2,200 personnel. This raises the total number of infiltrators since 1 October 1970 to an estimated 28,500 - 31,000.

In logistics developments, the first "crash" program of the current dry season is well underway. Intercepted enemy messages now indicate a heavy flow of southbound truck traffic on panhandle roads. In past years, similar programs have occurred periodically throughout the dry season.

South Vietnam Developments

25X1
NSA

The Hamlet Evaluation System (HES) for November showed that 95 percent of the population is living in ABC-rated areas. This represents a 0.7 percent gain and is the seventh consecutive month that showed improvement. The contested population totaled 4.5 percent and the VC-controlled population 0.3 percent.

The results of the government's economic stabilization measures of last October continue to be favorable with prices increasing only minimally despite the recent government pay raises. The blackmarket rate for dollars is below the pre-reform level and military payment certificates are selling below par. The rice harvest now underway probably will yield the largest crop in South Vietnam's history, and distribution of land under the land reform is beginning to show some momentum. U.S. officials are now conferring with the Vietnamese on additional measures to assure the continuation of recent favorable developments.

~~Top Secret~~